

Message Text

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APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 233097

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJECT: NATO DECLARATION

REF: (A) USNATO 5597; (B) USNATO 5676

1. WE HAVE CAREFULLY REVIEWED YOUR SUGGESTIONS (REFTEL) AND VIEWS EXPRESSED BY OTHERS IN COURSE OF RECENT PERMREP DISCUSSIONS OF FRENCH DRAFT NATO DECLARATION. WHILE WE RECOGNIZE VALIDITY OF MANY OF YOUR OBSERVATIONS, AND APPRECIATE YOUR CAREFUL ANALYSIS OF FRENCH TEXT AND ITS IMPLICATIONS, WE BELIEVE THAT, AT THIS POINT, IT WOULD BE MISUNDERSTOOD BY ALLIES GENERALLY AND FRENCH IN PARTICULAR IF WE SOUGHT TO MAKE FAR-REACHING CHANGES TO FRENCH DRAFT. FRENCH TEXT HAS DEFECTS, AS WE RECOGNIZED FROM OUTSET, BUT IT ALSO CONTAINS FAR MORE THAN WE EXPECTED, AND ESPECIALLY OFFERS ADVANTAGE OF PROVIDING A BASIS FOR AGREEMENT AT FIFTEEN.

2. IN LIGHT OF YOUR COMMENTS AND THOSE OF OTHERS, HOWEVER, WE WILL WISH TO PROPOSE SEVERAL AMENDMENTS TO
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THE PRESENT FRENCH TEXT, AND WILL BE PREPARED TO CONSIDER FURTHER SUGGESTIONS FOR REVISION THAT MAY EMERGE IN THE COURSE OF NAC AND SPC DISCUSSIONS.

3. IN NOVEMBER 28 NAC, YOU SHOULD INDICATE APPRECIATION FOR THE EXPANDED FRENCH TEXT, PARTICULARLY THOSE SECTIONS

DEALING WITH MBFR AND BURDENSARING, AND STATE THAT WE ALSO WELCOME PARA 10 REFERENCE TO EXPANDED CONSULTATIONS, AS WELL AS IMPROVEMENTS TO PARAS 11 AND 12.

4. WITH REGARD TO SPECIFIC AMENDMENTS, YOU SHOULD STATE THAT WE ARE CONTINUING OUR REVIEW OF PARAS 3 AND 5 OF THE FRENCH TEXT, AND PLAN TO MAKE AVAILABLE OUR VIEWS ON THESE PARAS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. WITH REGARD TO PARA 4, YOU SHOULD SEEK TO ELIMINATE PHRASE IN FIRST SENTENCE, "AT PRESENT." THIS DOES NOT FORECLOSE FURTHER EVOLUTION, WHILE STRENGTHENING FACTUAL STATEMENT OF SITUATION.

5. CONCERNING LUNS PROPOSAL (USNATO 5608) THAT DECLARATION BE COMPLETED AND POSSIBLY PUBLISHED BY MINISTERS AT NAC MINISTERIAL, YOU SHOULD INDICATE TO HIM AND OTHERS AS APPROPRIATE THAT WE ENVISAGE CONTINUING DISCUSSION OF NATO TEXT DURING AND AFTER MINISTERIAL MEETING. WE DO NOT HAVE IN MIND DATE FOR COMPLETION OF TEXT.

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